

BOEM ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROGRAM: ONGOING STUDIES

BOEM OCS Region: [Gulf of Mexico](#)

Planning Area: Gulfwide

Title: A Prospectus for Historical Social and Economic Analysis of the Oil and Gas Industry for the Gulf of Mexico Region (GM-09-01-06)

Total Cost: \$90,373

Period of Performance: FY 2010-2012

Conducting Organization: [Coastal Marine Institute](#), Louisiana State University

BOEM Contact: [Dr. Harry Luton](#)

Description:

Background: The assessment of social and economic impacts is complex, and unusually so with regard to the effects of the OCS oil and gas program in the Gulf of Mexico Region. Therefore, from time to time the BOEM, the Federal agency with a mandate to assess these social and economic impacts, critically reviews its own historical literature and practices. Previous efforts to summarize past research have focused attention on particular levels of analysis such as the family (Austin et. al. 2002; Austin and McQuire 2000), the community (Wallace et. al. 2001), a particular parish or port (Hughes and Fannin 2001), or a particular state like Louisiana (Applied Technology Research Group 1994; Aratame and Singelmann 2002; Laska 1993). Others have sought a more comprehensive model that seeks to better understand the impact of industry change on broad geographic regions in the GOMR (Gramling 1986). These studies represent only a fragment of all the research conducted on this relationship between changes in the energy industry and changes within communities in the gulf coast.

Applied Technology Research Corp. 1994. Louisiana, Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf Offshore Oil and Gas Activity: Impacts. Prepared by the Applied Technology Research Corporation. Baton Rouge: Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association.

Aratame, N., and J. Singelmann. 2002. Effect of the Oil and Gas Industry on Commuting and Migration Patterns in Louisiana: 1960 to 1990. OCS Study MMS 2002-072. New Orleans, LA: U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region.

Austin, D., K. Coelho, A. Gardner, R. Higgins, T. McGuire, J. Schrag-James, S. Sparks, and L. Stauber. 2002. Social and Economic Impacts of Outer Continental Shelf Activity on Individuals and Families, Volume 1: Final Report; Volume 2: Case Studies of Morgan City and New Iberia, Louisiana. Prepared by the University of Arizona, Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology. OCS Study MMS 2002-22, MMS 2002-023. New Orleans, LA: U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, Gulf of

Mexico OCS Region.

Austin, D.E., and T.R. McGuire (eds.). 2000. *Social and Economic Impacts of OCS Activities on Individuals and Families: A Report for the Participating Communities*. Tucson: University of Arizona, Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology.

Gramling, R. B., and S. Brabant: "Boomtowns and Offshore Energy Impact Assessment: The Development of a Comprehensive Model," *Sociological Perspectives* (1986) 29(2): 177-201.

Hughes, D. W., J. M. Fannin, et al.: "Lafourche Parish and Port Fourchon, Louisiana: Effects of the Outer Continental Shelf Petroleum Industry on the Economy and Public Service, Part 2, Draft Report," U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, New Orleans, Louisiana (2001).

Objectives: This is step one of a two step plan with an overall goal is to develop an edited synthesis of scholarly and applied work related to the historical relationship between the petroleum industry and economic, social, and cultural change in the Gulf of Mexico Region (GOMR). The step 2 goal will be the publication of a scholarly book. The step one goal is to develop a book prospectus that structure the synthesis, and will provide a framework for recruiting and organizing the academic and funding efforts required to produce the document. This prospectus will include:

- discussion of the rationale and purpose for the proposed volume;
- descriptive summary of each of the book's sections;
- full table of contents, complete with prospective titles, authors, and author affiliation and contact information;
- discussion of unique and outstanding features of the proposed volume that distinguish it from previously published volumes;
- description of the overall length of the proposed manuscript and of the illustrative material such as tables, photographs, and charts; and,
- examples of sample chapters that would comprise a completed edited book.

Methods: Methods for developing this prospectus include:

1. developing a literature review of BOEM reports, MA Theses, PhD Dissertations, scholarly journal articles, and scholarly books that pertain to changes in the Gulf of Mexico Region energy sector and societal change and is organized into key research themes;
2. organizing and participating in sessions of two conferences to draw scholars with diverse disciplinary expertise in support of the development of the prospectus; and,
3. using the literature review and conference sessions to develop key research

themes that detail the primary elements of the proposed edited volume.

Products: Quarterly reports, annotated bibliography, draft and final prospectus

Importance to BOEM: This project will provide a synthesis of socio-economic scholarship on the Gulf of Mexico energy sector, including BOEM-funded studies. This baseline information support the updating of Environmental Impact Statements and will also assist BOEM staff in terms of providing a greater understanding of the gaps in the body of knowledge about the socio-economics of the energy center in the region and how best to address these gaps.

Current Status: The project has held a round of panel sessions at the annual meetings of the Center for Natural Resource Economics and Policy (CNREP) and has reported on the results. The team is in the process of further developing synthesis themes. The project is on schedule to be completed in 2012.

Final Report Due: April 2012

Publications: None

Affiliated WWW Sites: None

Revised date: January 2012

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